

Message Text

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43

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 SAM-01 SAB-01 IO-10 TRSE-00 /084 W

----- 129827

R 141106Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9718

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY SANAA

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY TUNIS

S E C R E T KHARTOUM 0916

NOFORN

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PINR, XF, SU

SUBJ: GOS COMMITMENT TO PLO

REF: BEIRUT 4669

1. EMBASSY SUBSCRIBES FULLY TO COMMENTS PARA 4 REFTEL

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RE EXTENT OF COMMITMENT OF ARAB STATES TO PLO

AND ITS OBJECTIVES. FOR WHAT IT IS WORTH, ATTITUDE OF NIMEIRI REGIME IS ONE OF FULL AND UNQUESTIONED PUBLIC SUPPORT FOR PLO, COUPLED WITH SIGNIFICANT PRIVATE ATTENTIONS. GOS REGARDS PLO AS DE FACTO GOVERNMENT.

PLO REPRESENTATIVE HERE HAS FULL DIPLOMATIC STATUS, IS RANKED AFTER AMBASSADORS BUT AHEAD OF CHARGES AT PROTNDOL FORMATIONS AND ENJOYS MORE FREQUENT ACCESS TO NIMEIRI THAN VIRTUALLY ANY MEMBER DIPLOMATIC CORPS. ATTITUDE TOWARD PLO REP AT PUBLIC FUNCTIONS IS ONE OF ALMOST FAWNING ATTENTION BY MANY REGIME OFFICIALS. DEPT IS OF COURSE AWARE OF THIS OVERALL ATTITUDE TOWARD PLO, BUT ITS CUMULATIVE EFFECT ON LOCAL SCENE SHOULD NOT BE UNDER-ESTIMATED.

2. NIMEIRI'S STANDARD PUBLIC LINE ON MID-EAST ISSUE IS TO EXPRESS FULL SUPPORT FOR "PALESTINIAN RIGHTS". HOWEVER, PRESIDENT HAS ALSO FREQUENTLY GONE FURTHER BY PUBLICLY CALLING FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL TO 1967 LINES "AND EVENTUALLY TO THOSE OF 1947". NIMEIRI GEGIME CAN THUS BE EXPECTED OPPOSE ANY SETTLEMENT PROPOSALS THAT ARE UNACCEPTABLE TO PLO, EXCEPT IN REMOTE CONTINGENCY OHAT THEY ARE ACCEPTABLE TO ALL MAJOR STATES. REGIME ATTITUDE IS APPARENTLY COMPOUNDED FROM THREE DISPARATE INGREDIENTS: (A) GENUINE GOS SYMPATHY FOR PALESTINIAN "BROTHERS"; (B) SELF-INTERESTED CALCULATION THAT, AS ARAB/AFRICAN STATE, REGIME MUST BE SEEN TO BE MORE ROYALIST THAT THE KING ON PALESTINIAN QUESTION, PARTICULARLY TO MAXIMIZE FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM MONIED ARAB NEIGHBORS; AND (C) FEAR THAT A PLICY OF LESS EFFUSIVE SUPPORT MIGHT PROMPT PALESTINIAN REPRISALS (A CONSIDERATION PROMINENT IN THE DECISION TO RELEASE THE KHARTOUM MURDERERS LAST JUNE).

3. ADDRESSEES WILL NOTE FOREGOING COMMENTS ARE CONFINED TO NIMEIRI REGIME. BULK OF SUDANESE ARE LESS EMOTIONALLY INVOLVED IN PALESTINE ISSUE THAN ARAB OPINION IN CONFRONTATION STATES, AND FOUR MILLION SOUTHERNERS ARE NOT EVEN ARABS. BUT THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT OFTEN INARTICULATE AND IMPOVERISHED ELEMENTS OUTSIDE CAPITAL HAVE ANY REAL IMPACT ON GOS POLICY ON THIS QUESTION. THERE IS ALSO NO

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INDICATION THAT GOS REGARDS ITS CURRENT STANCE AS SUBJECT MODIFICATION IN ANTI-PLO DIRECTION IN FUTURE.
BREWER

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NNN

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